

Letter to the Membership of Minnesota Swimming

From Administration Vice Chair

Let me start by telling what I have failed to do this year. The "Red Book" is not on line on our web site. We have made some progress, we will get it done. When that happens we will herald it with great fan fair. We will never print the Red Book again it will only be on the web site, if you want a copy you can print it. That will save Minnesota Swimming Inc. time and money.

Minnesota Swimming, Inc. By-laws are on our web site. If you have an interest in how we run Minnesota Swimming and the charter that we follow you can find it there.

Timing Equipment- as many of you know in the fall of 2003 we had long discussions about the state of our touch pads, system 5's and all the other items that go into running a quality meet. We looked at getting out of equipment all together. Many of the pools that you rent for meets have their own timing equipment and you rent that along with the pool. All of our equipment is now housed at the University Of Minnesota Aquatic Center. Duane and Phil checked all the equipment that we had at that time and gave us some recommendations. Our pads fail because we do not take proper care of them, we needed pad caddies for storage and transportation. Things that we considered, many of the long coarse outdoor pools do not have timing equipment. If we are going to use these pools we must have equipment available. We budgeted \$18,000.00 for new equipment purchase. Mr. Jeff Chida our equipment chairperson contacted the known timing equipment manufactures and asked if they would be willing to offer discounts. Colorado Timing said yes. The initial order was placed by Minnesota Swimming for about \$17,000.00. Jeff contacted colleges, universities, high schools and YMCA's in Minnesota. The total order was in excess of \$250,000.00 that was a great sale for Colorado Timing but the best part was that all those that purchased equipment saved about 25% on their orders. If you want to use Minnesota Swimming equipment we have the form on the web site. Please read it carefully there have been changes in how and when you can pickup the equipment.

Swims this is a data base started in 2003 from our friends in Colorado Springs. The goal is to have every sanctioned USA Swimming meet entered on this data base. For this to work, we in Minnesota will have to make some changes. More information will be coming in the near future. Here are a few key points

Registration names and meet entry names must be the same. Example, child is registered with USA Swimming as William Robert Smith his given name. All of William's fiends and the coach call him Billy Bob, he get entered into the meet as Smith, Billy Bob. A copy of the meet results are sent to, Matt Brown and he down loads the meet to Swims. USA Swimming and Swims, have no record of a Billy Bob Smith that swims for your club so those times go into a holding tank.

Relays and Swims – The meet results have to include the names of each swimmer on a relay. If there are no names on the meet results when it is down loaded to Swims this will go into the holding tank. Minnesota Swimming is graded on how full our holding tank is. We want to be good members of USA Swimming please help us.

David Goble
Administrative VC
Minnesota Swimming, Inv.